THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.
Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 21. SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1915. PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec., Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.
All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

MEETINGS LIST, Aug. 6th—14th.

Friday, Aug. 6th.
Custom House, 5 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Piggott St., 8 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Beckton Rd., 8 p.m., Mr. Watts, Miss O'Callaghan.
Ordnance Rd., 9 p.m., Mr. Watts, Miss O'Callaghan.
St. Stephen's Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst.
Coborn Rd. Station, 9 p.m., Miss Pankhurst.
Knapp Rd., 9.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mr. C. Gray.
Well St. & Holcroft Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Manicom.
Well St. & Morning Lane, 9 p.m., Miss Manicom.
Median Rd., 9.30 p.m., Miss Manicom.

Saturday, Aug. 7th.
Lefevre Rd. & Roman Rd., 8 p.m., Mr. Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Morpeth St., 9 p.m., Mr. Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Gibraltar Walk, 9.30 p.m., Mr. Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Rathbone St., "Whitehouse," 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
"Boleyn," 9 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Orwell Rd., 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Lefevre Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Armagh Rd., 3.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst Miss O'Callaghan.
Stafford Rd., 4 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Hague St., 4.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.

Sunday, Aug. 8th.
"Salmon and Ball," 11 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Morpeth St., 12 noon, Mrs. Bouvier.
Victoria Park, 3.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst.
Dock Gates, 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst.
Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Salmon Lane, 11 a.m., Miss Manicom, Miss O'Callaghan.
Chrisp St. & Grundy St., 12 noon, Miss Manicom, Miss O'Callaghan.
Rathbone St. & Barking Rd., 12.30 p.m. Miss Manicom, Miss O'Callaghan.

Monday, Aug. 9th.
General Meeting, 400 Old Ford Rd., 8 p.m.
Lesbia Rd., 8 p.m., Mrs. Duval.
Armagh Rd., 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Lynch.
Hague St., 4 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Lynch.
Morning Lane & Well St., 3 p.m., Miss Manicom, Miss McLellan.
Median Rd., 4.30 p.m., Miss Manicom.

Tuesday, Aug. 10th.
Salmon Lane, 8 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Chrisp St. & Grundy St., 9 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Ordnance Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Manicom.
"Peacock," 9 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 11th.
Stafford Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Bailey.
Coborn Rd. Station, 9 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Bailey.
Chrisp St. & Charles St., 8 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss McLellan.
Chrisp St. & Grundy St., 9 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss McLellan.
Orwell Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.

(Meetings List continued on back page.)

Poster Parades to advertise Queen's Hall Demonstration, Saturdays 7th and 14th. Starting at 3.30 sharp from International Suffrage Shop, 5 Duke Street, W.C. Will helpers please send in their names?

Keep up the Demand!
No Registration without safeguards!
Down with Sweating!
If a woman does a man's job, she must have a man's pay!
Down with High Prices and Big Profits!
Wages and Prices must rise together!
Votes for Working Women!

Great JOINT DEMONSTRATION

ON

Registration Sunday, August 15th.

PROCESSIONS from EAST & WEST

TO

QUEEN'S HALL, Langham Place.

SOCIETIES JOINING—

The East London Federation of the Suffragettes, United Suffragists, Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, Women Writers' Suffrage League, Herald League, B.S.P., The Dockers' Union, and branches of the I.L.P., Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, Electrical Trade Union, National Union of Railwaymen, and others.

East London Procession.

BOW.—Form up 2 p.m. at Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Road. March 3 sharp, via Old Ford Road, Roman Road, Green Street, Cambridge Heath Road, Mile End Road, Whitechapel Road to—Gardiner's corner.

POPLAR.—Form up at 2 p.m. at East India Dock Gates. March 3 sharp, via Commercial Road to—Gardiner's corner.

March via Leadenhall Street, Cornhill, Cheapside, Holborn, Oxford Street, to Queen's Hall.

South-East London Procession.

Form up 3 p.m., Asylum Road. March 3.30, via Old Kent Road, New Kent Road, St. George's Road, Westminster Bridge Road, Parliament Street, Charing Cross, Haymarket, Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street to

QUEEN'S HALL, 5 P.M.

THE CLEANING WOMAN.

When red morning climbs the gray stairway of the stars, as soon as I awake from slumber, comes someone quietly to my little home, to do for me more than I dare do for myself.

When she comes there is a cheery sound of opening windows, and a swift determined brushing of rugs, and a merry splashing of hot water and a glorious domestic din in which good fairies have a part.

All day long it goes on, and when gray eventide sits down to brood awhile at the rosy gate of the West, I sit down in my home to look about me happily on smooth, dustless floors, bright rugs, and the chairs with their well-plumped cushions, and order and peace.

I savor the newly washed fragrance of things and the faint reminiscence of cedar oil upon the furniture and I remember to be grateful to my cleaning woman.

To-day with me, to-morrow with another, and the next day with another, day after day she makes her magic in our homes, and we pay her but do not thank her.

Day after day she brings us cleanliness after the dust of usage, order out of untidiness, peace and serenity out of the disarray of every day doings. Is it a small and mean vocation to serve the world so well day after day?

Is it a small and mean vocation to come in the dawn and find unloveliness, to leave at sunset, and leave loveliness behind?

MARGUERITE WILKINSON.

From *Life and Labour*, the organ of the National Women's Trade Union League of America.

RECORDS OF DISGRACEFUL SWEATING.

The nation that would be "the policeman of the West" should purge itself of these infamies of sweating!

Streetly Ammunition Works, near Walsall, in the Midlands, is a factory where only 'women' are employed—500 of them. They are making munitions from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Half-an-hour is allowed for breakfast, and only half-an-hour for dinner, part of these meal-times, even, being absorbed by work in some departments.

No time is allowed for tea. Most of the women live from three to six miles from their homes, some walking to the factory owing to the lack of railway facilities. Train fare is paid, but, as the morning train does not arrive till 7.10, half-an-hour is stopped. No meals are provided. For their 73½ hours week (including Sunday till dinner-time), the average wage of the women is 15s. to 16s.

At Villiers' Engineering Works, Wolverhampton, the normal week is 53 hours, and the wages paid are on the scale that begins at 6s. for a worker of 14 years of age and rises by 1s. a year to 12s. at 21.

One firm in the midlands pays 2s. 1d. for working on capstan lathes from 8 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., and for shell filling and cleaning 14s. For night work the women get time and one-fifth, the men receive time and a-quarter and double time.

Clingers, of Mare Street, Hackney, pay 4s. a dozen for making soldiers' shirts. This rate sounds a little better than that paid by some of the other sweating firms; but in reality it is not, for the women who make these shirts are obliged to finish them, and finishing, which is usually paid for separately, takes as long as making. These shirts have each 8 buttons to be stitched on and 8 button-holes to be made. For these shirts for which the women are paid 4d., the Territorials are charged 4s. 11d.

Are we to imagine that the cost of material and cutting-out is anything like 4s. 7d. for each shirt?

We have already reported Clingers to the War Office for paying only 1s. 8d. a dozen for finishing soldiers' trousers. Their reputation amongst working women is a most unenviable one.

A woman working at Pearce's, 812 Roman Road, says she makes coats for 3½d., which take a specially quick worker 1½ hours; average workers take from 2 to 2½ hours.

Messrs. Moconochie at their East London works pay women 13s. 9d for "trucking." The women have to push trucks weighing 75 lbs. and 50 lbs. The hours are from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

One woman engaged in this work is the main support of her family as her husband has developed phthisis. She has born 17 children.

(Continued on page 295, col. 1).

STOP PRESS NEWS.

ANOTHER DELAY.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE PROMISED TO SEE US THIS WEEK.

His Secretary now writes: "Mr. Lloyd George has to keep an engagement to speak at Bangor to-morrow, and then he goes to Criccieth for the week-end. He will communicate with you on his return."

LEAGUE OF RIGHTS

For Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives.

EAST LONDON BRANCHES.

BOW BRANCH meets at the Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Rd., 8 p.m., every Tuesday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. M. Lansbury.

BROMLEY BRANCH meets at 53 St. Leonard's St., 8 p.m., every Tuesday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. McCheyne.

POPLAR BRANCH meets at 20 Railway St., 8 p.m., every Tuesday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Drake.

WEST HAM BRANCH meets at 55 Fife Rd., 8 p.m., every Monday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Millo.

EAST HAM BRANCH meets at Essex Hall, Wakefield St., 8 p.m., every Monday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Thompson.

WALTHAMSTOW BRANCH meets at William Morris Hall, 3 p.m., every Thursday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Bush.

E. L. F. S.

URGENT GENERAL MEETING,

400 OLD FORD ROAD,

MONDAY, AUGUST 9th, at 8 p.m.

TO DISCUSS

National Register,

and

Queen's Hall Demonstration.

The

Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes,

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.

Telephone EAST 1787.

AGENTS:

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 5 Duke Street, Charing Cross, W.C.; CITY AND SUBURBAN PUBLISHING Co., St. Bride's Churchyard, E.C.; Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL & Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.

Can be obtained at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. SMITH & SONS and Messrs. WILLING.

Annual Subscription: Post free, 4s. 4d.

Vol. II. No. 21.—Sat., Aug. 7th, 1915.

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

IMPORTANT.

DEAR FRIENDS,—All your help is needed for the Great Joint Procession to the Queen's Hall on Sunday, August 15th.

Never was a Demonstration more necessary! Whilst almost every household in the country is burdened with anxiety for someone fighting across the seas, or with grief for someone who has been killed, the situation is being turned to account by those who are trying to make money out of the War, and very serious troubles are growing up for us at home.

Women are called on in the name of Patriotism to do men's work. Real patriots would be only too willing to pay for the work done by women, at least as much as had to be paid for it, when it was done by men. But greedy money makers are using the women as a means of getting bigger profits, and are paying them miserably sweated wages.

The Government has refused to insist that women shall get the same pay as the men, whose places they take, except on piece-work. Even the promise to pay the same piece-work rates is not faithfully kept, and in most cases the women are not paid by piece but by time. Mr. Lloyd George promised that a fair minimum wage should be paid to women in munition factories, and that the Government would prevent sweating, yet we find that women are getting from 8s. to 14s., and even so low as from 6s. to 12s. a week in munition factories. We must ask ourselves, with concern, how are families to be kept when the men come back from the War?

The sweating of women employed on Army clothing and other military work is a scandal that the Government refuses to remedy.

The Munitions Act and Compulsory Registration take away all freedom from the workers, whilst the employers are allowed to make bigger profits out of them than before the war.

The cost of food, fuel and everything we buy is still rising, and the Government refuses to do anything to protect the people.

Soon we shall have to begin paying War Taxes. The Government has formed an Economy Committee, to advise as to what the War Taxes shall be. On that Committee they have put men who object to the Old Age Pension, and want to tax wages and food, men who are determined that the workers shall pay for the war, and that the rich and powerful shall grow even richer and more powerful than they were before.

War is a terrible thing, a relic of utter barbarism, bringing misery and loss to the relatives of the combatants, and searing with awful wounds the bodies, minds and souls of those who fight.

But there is no aspect of warfare more sinister and more cruel than that which shows us the great capitalists of the community using the War as a means of increasing their store of wealth, at the expense of those who have nothing but the wages they earn by working, who are always poor because of their low wages, and who, if they cease from working for a week are reduced to destitution.

If we are not absolutely blind, we must recognise that this War is being used as a means of making the few richer and the many poorer, and as a means also of forging chains by which those who work can be more firmly controlled by those who profit by their labour.

We must prevent this. We can prevent it if we will rouse ourselves and others to the danger, and the way to begin is by making the demonstration on Registration Sunday a tremendous rallying point that will start a big campaign throughout the country!

To do this we must work very hard. You are all needed.

Make up your minds to throw yourselves into the campaign and to give every hour that you can spare to the work. Any time, morning, afternoon or evening, that you go into the offices at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, or 20 Railway Street, Poplar; any afternoon at 55 Fife Road, Canning Town; Thursday evenings at 124 Barking Road, and 175 Dalston Lane, Hackney, there will be someone only too glad to find something for you to do to help. So please come along.

Yours in freedom's cause,

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

MORE ABOUT THE COAL ACT.

"If this Bill goes forward in the shape in which it now is, the Government will be considered to have fathered a political fraud. . . . . If the public in the course of next winter find, as I believe they certainly will find, that they are not in a better position than they were last year, they will say the whole thing has been a fraud."—*Mr. Dickinson on the Coal Act.*

"I could not help feeling rather amused when the President of the Board of Trade gave us that picture of the poor people rushing, possibly in their thousands, and running up the price of coal to panic prices. It is very different from that. ***The panic with them is to find the few coppers to buy the coal.***—Sir S. Collins on the Coal Act.

When the Coal Act was under discussion, Mr. Runciman refused to do anything to protect the small consumer from exploitation, and on behalf of the Government resisted a number of amendments moved with this object. He said that certain coal merchants had entered into a voluntary arrangement to open coal shops in poor districts, to enable the people to buy coal on reasonable terms. He declared it was unpracticable for the Government to take any steps. But Sir E. Cornwall, a coal merchant, and one of the prime movers in this voluntary arrangement, welcomed the idea that the Government should prohibit the increase in the price of coal sold in any place, in quantities of less than two cwts., over the price of the same coal, sold at the same place and time, by the ton. He appealed to the Government to accept the clause, but in vain.

The Coal Act provides that coal must not cost more at the pit's mouth than 4s. more than in 1914. But this is not to apply to coal to be used on board ship. This bars out the Admiralty.

In the debate on the Third Reading, Sir A. Markham pointed out that, under the Defence of the Realm Act, the Admiralty may requisition coal, but has no power to fix the price of the coal that it takes. He stated that in Yorkshire the Admiralty has paid 10s. to 12s. a ton more than the prices of 1913-14.

It was urged that the Admiralty should be given power to buy coal at least as cheaply as other people may do under the Coal Act.

But the Government refused to accept this power. When high prices are charged to the Admiralty it is only the public that pays!

WAR PENSIONERS LEFT WAITING.

The House of Lords has shelved the Naval and Military Pensions Bill until after the recess, and the House of Commons has gone away for 7 weeks, which means that no further progress can be made with the Bill for at least that length of time.

The Lords have criticised the Bill, and indeed it is a bad Bill, but *our* objections to the Bill are not the same as theirs.

They complain because the Soldiers' and Sailors' Association are not made all-powerful, that they are offered a representation of only 2 out of 25 on the Statutory Committee, and a general promise that in districts where their representatives have been actively at work, they shall be put on the Local Committees, the scheme for each of which is to be arranged by the local Borough Council.

The Lords object that the volunteer philanthrophists are not offered enough power. We protest that they are offered too much, and we feel great compassion for those who, because they will be in receipt of pensions and separation allowances, will have to submit to dictation and interference from all sorts of more or less incompetent outsiders.

The Government's present plan is that 10 persons shall be nominated by the Government, 7 by Government departments, 6 by the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation and 2 by the National Relief Fund (both public charities), 2 by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, 2 by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Association, and 2 Labour representatives.

LET SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND THEIR RELATIVES BE REPRESENTED.

A great deal has been said by the Lords as to the need for giving the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association power to safeguard the interests of the soldiers' and sailors' and their relatives, but the best means of safeguarding their interests would be to secure direct representation of the people concerned. The S.S.F.A. *does not represent* or even pretend to represent the families of the men for whom it presumes to speak. Neither soldiers and sailors, nor their wives and families can belong to it or have a voice in its management.

Organisations composed of, and run by the soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives themselves, are gradually beginning to grow up. Such organisations of the people concerned should be represented on any committees set up for dealing with these people's affairs.

FORM YOUR OWN ORGANISATIONS.

At least 7 weeks must elapse before the Military and Naval Pensions' Bill can come again before the House of Commons. These 7 weeks should be spent in forming more organisations of the soldiers' and sailors' relatives, in order that a strong demand for inclusion on the Statutory Committee and the Local Committees may be made from each district. The League of Rights for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives is organising a deputation on this matter. May it meet with triumphant success!

SHALL PENSIONS BE FORFEITED?

One of the provisions of the Bill to which we object most strongly is that which gives to the Statutory Committee the power "*to decide whether any pension, grant, or separation allowance to wife, widow, child, or other dependant, has, under the regulations, subject to which it was granted, become forfeited.*"

We protest against the view that *anything* could make the pensions forfeit. In our view they should be absolutely secured to those to whom they have been granted. But it is especially dangerous that a committee should be able to declare the Pensions or allowances forfeited, without the unfortunate person concerned having the right to be publicly tried and to appeal.

This clause must be removed from the Bill when next it comes before the House.

Many Members of the House of Lords have objected to the Pensions Bill, on the ground that "there is no money in it," as it is not stated from where the money is to come for the supplementary allowances, which are to be added to the Government Pension where the Committees think fit, and are to be paid to relatives other than wives and children.

WILL PENSIONS LAST?

We agree that the position in which soldiers' and sailors' dependent relatives are placed is a very vague and unsatisfactory one. Indeed, it is so vague and unsatisfactory that many of them express the fear that no Pensions will be forthcoming.

We wish that we could feel justified in assuring them that we believe their Pensions to be secured, but we regret to say that our minds are filled with anxiety on their behalf.

But it is not only in regard to the Pensions of mothers and fathers and brothers and sisters of the soldiers and sailors that we are anxious, we are troubled also about the Pensions of the wives and children, and the disabled soldiers and sailors themselves.

The promised scale of Pensions is not fixed by Act of Parliament, but by a Treasury Warrant, that can be revoked as easily as it was made.

Moreover, at the present time, the disabled soldiers, who are constantly coming home, in most cases do not receive the Pensions that have been promised, and what Pensions *are* given are only given for a year.

We know this of our own knowledge. Over and over again men have come to us, who have been discharged from the Army, as unfit for military service. Their pay and the wife's separation allowance has stopped, and they have been sent home penniless, without even a word of advice as to how to obtain a Pension. We have communicated on their behalf, and secured for them Pensions of varying amounts, but only in one case has the soldier received the full amount of the Pension that has been promised.

In the debates that have taken place on this question, in the House of Commons, Members of Parliament have also testified that the men are not getting what has been promised, and that the Pensions granted have only been granted "for twelve months conditional."

The House of Commons has adjourned for seven weeks, and many poor people, who have been injured by the War, will be wanting bread meanwhile.

Whilst the House is at play, we must agitate so that when it meets again the Pensions Bill shall be transformed.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

JOIN the League of Rights for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives.

The fact that two Acts have been passed since the War, for the purpose of securing a stricter discipline over the sailors, creates an unpleasant impression.

Miss Reta Oldham, president of the Association of Headmistresses, protests that "the old scandal of patronage and influence in securing Government appointments for men is spreading to the gift of places to girls."

RECORDS of DISGRACEFUL SWEATING

(Continued from front page, col. 4.)

The House Workers League supply the following facts: The rate of pay for army tooth brushes is 5d. a dozen—it takes 1 hour to make half-a-dozen—this means 2½d. an hour.

The Salford Board of Guardians pays its char-women 15s. a week—a resolution to raise this miserable wage to 16s. was defeated.

For the tin box and canister making trade, the Trade Board fixed a minimum trade rate of 14s. 1d. per week of 52 hours for female workers of 18 years of age and upwards.

In February it was stated in the House of Commons that in Mitcham 8d. a dozen was paid for making khaki coats, 3s. and 4s. a dozen for haversacks.

The London Brick Company of Sletton, near Peterborough, are employing women for taking bricks from the press. The average wage is 10s. a week.

A woman at Dingwall's East End factory, making packing cases, gets 12s. a week for work that was previously done by a man for 35s.

At our Caxton Hall Exhibition we showed how Mrs. A. gets 2½d. a pair for finishing soldiers' trousers—this work requires an hour. Mrs. B. takes 2½ hours for finishing soldiers' overcoats, and gets 6d. each. Mrs. C. machines soldiers' trousers with two pockets for 4s. a dozen—must pay for thread, silk, and tailors' soap; when these deductions are made she has about 3s. 3d. for a dozen pairs.

The National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks reports on wages and conditions of women and girls employed in the different "1d.," "6½d.," and other bazaars throughout the country. In one case in the midlands it was found that 22 women in one bazaar were working 14 hours per week for between 7s. and 10s. a week. Inquiries throughout the country show that the average wage of girls with experience is about 12s. per week, whilst beginners get anything from 6s. per week.

A number of men and women employed in London wholesale drug establishments are demanding a minimum wage. As the firms have not yet agreed, ballots of the members of the trade union have been taken, and in several cases overwhelming majorities have decided to cease work unless the workers' demands are conceded.

WOMEN WAR WORKERS' STRIKE

I am writing to tell you about a strike of women employed on War work at Burnham-on-Crouch, by Mr. Tom Nethercoat, who has an Army sub-contract for tent bags, water buckets, and bags, under Mr. Tyrrell, of London, who is the contractor.

Between 100 and 200 girls and women are employed at ages from 13 to 40.

The wages are low—2½d., 2½d., and 3d. an hour. The machines are worked by power, which give rise to accidents, and are speeded up. Girls of 17 and 18 earn from 6s. 3d. to 9s. 11d. Tea is given, but nothing to eat with it.

The working hours are from 7 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., with two hours for meals.

Last week the women struck in both shops. Some of the women have been asked to come back with the promise of a rise presently.

We are informed by a correspondent that certain Army clothing firms have announced that if any of the women workers leave to go and obtain employment at any factory within ten miles, they will be prosecuted. We should like to see one of the employers bring an action of this kind, as it would give an excellent opportunity for exposing the disgracefully sweated rates at which so many of the women work. We do not believe that such a ground for action can be substantiated in the Courts.

In the old days suffragists and other women who wanted to do things were always told that "woman's place is the home." Now an organising officer of the Board of Trade, Miss Ewart, speaking at Preston, has asked us to consider whether we cannot give up our "cat-like love of home" and accept work anywhere.

WHAT THE MUNITIONS ACT MEANS.

A fitter's mate, employed by Towler and Innes, of High Street, Stratford, was paid 6½d. an hour. He complained that he was made to work under price, and failing to get redress, thought that he would leave and get work at another munition factory, where wages and conditions were fairer.

But when he gave notice, he was told that under the Munitions Act he could not leave without permission from the firm, and that the firm refused to give permission.

Yet the firm has the power to dismiss him at will!

Under the Munitions Act 32 workmen were summoned before a Munitions Tribunal in Manchester, on July 31st, for striking work instead of referring their difference to the Board of Trade. Mr. A. J. Ashton, K.C., City Recorder, explained that the employers and the workers on each occasion would be represented on the tribunal by an assessor, who would assist him by their advice, but the responsibility of the decision rested entirely on himself. He said that, "the Government had decided that in the present strenuous and perilous times it was not for masters and men to decide in their own way when and how employment was to be refused or given up. Disputes must be submitted to arbitration without lock-outs or strikes. The Government regarded the matter so seriously that under this Act workmen refusing to work could be fined £5 for each day they were absent, and were liable to be sent to prison."

Fifteen of the workers had gone on strike because their bonus was insufficient, another 17 joined out of sympathy.

Mr. Ashton said he hoped that this case would bring to the notice of both masters and men the result of taking the law into their own hands instead of going to arbitration. As this was the first case he was inclined to impose only a nominal penalty. Each defendant would be fined 2s. 6d. and must contribute to the costs, which he fixed at £3 3s. They would be allowed 21 days in which to pay.

Canadian and American machinists employed upon munitions at Barrow complain that many of them cannot earn enough wages to keep themselves at Barrow and their wives and children in Canada, and urge that there should be a separation allowance from the Government to the dependants.

At a meeting they expressed disappointment at the conditions of labour and wages, and a deputation was elected to consult with the employers. They protested against Canadian workmen having to take five days August holidays and so lose wages.

The motormen, conductors, and depot employees of Wigan Corporation tramways went on strike recently, and the whole tramway service, which serves the Wigan coalfield area, and which under ordinary conditions would have been busy with holiday traffic, was at a standstill. The men who have already been granted a war bonus ranging from 1s. to 1s. 6d. a week, demand an advance of an halfpenny per hour on the present rate rate of wages for motormen and conductors and one penny for electricians.

Two hundred fitters and their helpers are on strike at Hartland and Wolff's Belfast yard because the war bonus has been stopped. An early settlement is expected.

Existing on Twenty-pence a Week.

At an inquest at Southwark, on a child who was accidentally killed, the mother said she was a sack-maker, and worked from early morning till seven in the evening for 11s. per week. She paid 6s. per week rent, and the balance of 5s. was all that she, her mother and the child lived upon.

The Coroner: You have to live and clothe yourselves upon 5s. per week?

Witness: Yes, sir.

The Coroner: I don't know how it can be done—mother, grandmother, and a growing child on 5s. a week!

And yet noble lords and wise politicians maintain that there is no distress.

The Commissioner of Police has written to the Willesden Council regretting that at present he is unable to sanction women police in the metropolitan area.

Send a Subscription towards the cost of the Great Anti-Sweating Demonstration on Registration Sunday.

NATIONAL REGISTER.

A correspondent writes:—I will sign the National Register only on condition that we women are paid the same rate of wage as the man, if we take the men's work; as honorable women we must refuse to let a brave man come back to slow starvation. That the big profits of the contractors, corn merchants, etc., be stopped at once—this is most urgent, that this miserly greed for money should be stopped. If it is not, later on it will bring starvation to many homes, and the country will not remain peaceful any longer under such a state of affairs; it will also bring riots and revolution with it.

A WORKING WOMAN.

ONE WAY OF ANSWERING QUESTION 9 ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER FORM.

I do not think it right to do Government work unless I have a guarantee that I shall be paid the standard rate of wages hitherto paid for the kind of work that I am asked to undertake, with the addition of any War bonus or increase in wages that may be granted owing to the War, and that if the work is unskilled and the wages hitherto paid for it have been low, I shall not be engaged to do it at a lower wage than 7d. an hour. I consider that women's labour should be safeguarded by the possession of the Parliamentary Vote.

Provided also that I am to be employed directly by the Government and not by a contractor or sub-contractor.

A correspondent writes:—"In thanking you for your very valuable advice *re* women's labour, in seeking employment I will take care not to help in lowering men's wages, as that is not my attitude at any time. I have always maintained that labour is worth good remuneration, even if unskilled, for there is the time expended and very often great physical strength and strain, which should receive its recompense. Therefore, after being warned of the pitfalls which I otherwise might have fallen into, I will steer as clear as possible and aim to do my duty. Thanking you for the explanation so clearly set forth."

A correspondent writes:—The Educational Committee of the London County Council have determined to save £91,000 by appointing women, at much reduced salaries, in the place of men who have gone to the War.

As it is, the maximum salary of the women, who, as a rule, are more capable and trustworthy, more earnest and more interested in their work than the men, is £120, whilst the men of the same class get £150.

It is said, of course, that the men frequently have to keep wives, but how many of the women keep their mothers, and help their sisters and brothers? I know many such, and also the kindly interest they take in many poor children out of school hours.

It must be equal wages for equal work, and I hope you and your friends will not rest until you bring it about.

I have four highly qualified daughters engaged in teaching, and I had 40 years of it myself under Joshua Fitch, at Marlboro' College, and at Christ's Hospital, E.C., as head of drawing schools.

Yours, etc.—H. WATTS MASON.

The War Savings' Committee has drawn up a number of suggestions to further economy. They say: "Changes of fashion in clothes must be ignored or suppressed." "All 'treating' should be given up till we can toast a final and complete victory. 'No drinks till we've won should be the motto.'" They admit that "economy in the home is almost entirely in women's hands." Surely, had they admitted women on this Committee, these childish suggestions would not be made! And if women understand household economy why were they not chosen?

Mr. Morgan, who is on the Committee, says that: "Half the income of the nation to-day is held by 2,000,000 people, and the other half by 43,000,000."

What is the use of asking the wealthy few, who live on the many poor, to do without a few little extra luxuries? What is wanted is a bold budget to take, by taxation, a large proportion of this superfluous wealth, to pay the nation's debts, and to use for the common good.

ECHOES OF PARLIAMENT.

Heard in the office: "Reading Hansard makes one feel thoroughly disillusioned—it contains so many appalling revelations of the corruption in Government departments!"

In the House of Commons, on July 20th, Major Hunt drew attention to the fact that rifles in France were used for floors, for roofs for dug-outs, and for fire-wood!

Sir H. Dalziel said that he had visited one of the great ships used for interning Germans. Looking over the side of the ship he saw "scores and scores of loaves of bread floating in the water." He was told this was a daily occurrence, for the War Office persisted in sending too much bread, and the surplus had to be emptied into the sea.

Lord Avonmore and Browne stated in the House of Lords on July 26th, that tins of beef sent over for the troops "have been used for mending roads in Flanders, and that biscuits are commonly utilised at the front for lighting fires."

In the House of Commons, on July 26th, Mr. Hodge remarked on the fact that the War Office had sold (of course, at a loss) thousands of cases of bacon and a quantity of cheese, of which it had bought too much. Mr. Forster admitted this, but could not estimate the loss caused by such prodigal purchasing.

Lord Avonmore and Browne states that when the Eleventh Division left Whitley Camp 500 loaves were thrown away with a quantity of meat, also that boots, trousers, riding breeches, horse rugs, blankets, and sheets to the value of £100 were given away.

Yet, although such examples of waste are given daily, the War Office is exempt from supervision by the Committee on Economy! Are other Government departments still more wasteful?

In the House of Commons recently, Mr. MacCallum Scott asked the President of the Board of Trade whether, as rents were being raised in Glasgow, the French Government Bill to limit and reduce rents would not be taken as an example by our authorities? Mr. Runciman replied that he doubted the need for fresh legislation; but should such necessity arise, the Government will not fail to seek fresh powers. The Government does not hesitate when there is a question of imitating the coercive methods of the enemy. We have a right to demand that they shall follow the good examples that have been set by our allies.

When £235,000 was asked for the treatment of Tuberculosis under the National Insurance Act, Sir J. D. Rees protested that such treatment was a luxury.

Later on, £44,754 was asked for to pay for the Law Officers.

Mr. Pringle pointed out that this vote was a fraud, because it did not disclose the whole of the amount actually paid to the great Government lawyers. He explained that the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General, who were paid partly by a lump sum, got £22,300 between them in 1897, and that the sum had since increased very much; in 1900 it was £30,133, and in 1914 £37,425 3s.—an exorbitant salary to be paid to two men! Mr. Pringle asked that the Government should economise by paying the Attorney-General £10,000 a year, and the Solicitor-General £9,000.

Sir Arthur Markham recalled the fact that in 1901 Mr. Lloyd George had said that the fees paid to the law officers of the Crown are "fixed by clerks in the Department of the Crown Solicitor, whose appointment and promotion are in the hands of the Attorney-General." Mr. Lloyd George had said then that the system was thoroughly rotten, but he is a Cabinet Minister now.

Another £150,000,000 was then voted for the War. Sir Arthur Markham pointed out that we are paying royalties to Krupps, of Germany, for the fuses we use.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

BOW.

400 Old Ford Road, Bow.

We have only a week now before Registration Sunday, and we should all work our utmost to make the demonstration a success. Helpers are especially wanted for distributing bills at the houses in the district, and for canvassing. Please note that our Tuesday afternoon meetings will not be held during August, but will be resumed in September. All members should make a point of coming to the General Meeting on Monday night at 400 Old Ford Road.

***Dreadnought* sales, week ending July 31st—826. Miss O'Brien 243, Miss Marks 208, Miss Watts 138, Mrs. Farrall 29, Mrs. Payne 22, Special Meetings 87.**

BROMLEY.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Mantle,
53 St. Leonard Street.

The Meeting at 53 St. Leonard's Street was very well attended, when Mrs. Schlette gave a very interesting address, which all the members enjoyed. We should be glad if those members who cannot attend the Thursday night meetings, would send their monthly subscriptions along. The shop is open every day from 2 to 5.30 p.m.

We thank Mrs. Scott for getting four subscribers to the *Dreadnought* and hope the other members will follow her good example.

HACKNEY.

Offices: 175 Dalston Lane
(Facing Hackney Downs Station).

Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.

Very successful meetings held on Thursday by Dr. Tchaykovsky; also by Miss S. Pankhurst on Saturday. Helpers are wanted in working up the demonstration on the 15th, especially in bill distributing and canvassing. The time is very short now, so please do all you can. Come in to 400 Old Ford Road, and say what you will do.

SOUTH WEST HAM.

55 Fife Road, Tidal Basin.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Daisy Parsons,
94 Ravenscroft Road.

Good meeting was addressed on Monday at the "Peacock" by Nurse Smith, who made two new members, and on Thursday Miss Pankhurst and Mrs. Walshe were at 124 Barking Road. Miss Pankhurst also addressed two open-air meetings, and Dr. Tchaykovsky spoke at Beckton Road on the "Care of the Babies." Many people hope that she will soon come again. Now members, please attend regularly the next two weeks. We must make arrangements for getting to the Queen's Hall, on August 15th. Please attend and pay up subscriptions that are overdue. All members are thanked who have been canvassing and billing this week.

SOUTH-EAST LONDON E.L.F.S.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Balchin,
39 Radnor Street, Peckham.

Good meeting held in Finsbury Park on Sunday. All members are asked to support the Queen's Hall Demonstration on Sunday, August 15th.

Some months ago the Rebels' Social and Political Union began to lay out as a vegetable and flower garden the piece of ground at the rear of the E.L.F.S. premises at 20 Railway Street, Poplar; now there are promising crops of parsley, peas, beans, potatoes, cabbage, turnip, beetroot, lettuce, rhubarb, and various flowers.

12 Parsonage Road,
Withington, Manchester.
June 14th, 1915.

Dear Editor,—In a recent issue you quote a paragraph from the *New Witness*, which is so misleading that I ask you to find room in your paper for this letter.

The people who denounce Vegetarianism are always people who have no practical and actual experience of the subject. To say that "Vegetarianism is a fad which can be practised only by people with time or money" is as untrue as to say that "Votes for Women" is only the cry of the hysterical members of our sex. Vegetarianism is a great cause, with far-reaching effects, moral and economic. Apart from the humane aspect of Vegetarianism, it is much cheaper than meat diet, entails less cooking, less cleaning up, much less waste. If the demand were greater the supply could be very soon so large that the foods would be cheaper still. Most of the cheapest and most nutritious foods are those which keep good for months—even years. It is also untrue to assert that to be adequately nourished one must eat a greater quantity of vegetarian food than of flesh foods.

Amongst the very poor, and in the two or three "working-class" families, where I have persuaded the people to turn vegetarian, they find they are better off financially in these days of high prices than they were before the prices went up. A Suffragist friend, who works amongst the blind poor in Ancoats, tells the same tale. Amongst my middle-class friends, many of whom have been hard hit by the War, the daughters, Suffragists all, have been converted to Vegetarianism for some time past, but have been unable to convert their parents—these parents are now being converted through economic pressure to Vegetarianism. I wish I could say also to Suffrage—but that will come no doubt. Great factors in this cause seem to me to be—

That it abolishes the cruelty of breeding animals and killing them, and the immorality of condemning a section of the community to spend their lives in doing the dirty work of those who consider themselves infinitely superior or less brutal.

Also it would encourage agriculture, and not diminish trade at home or over seas.

I must not take up more of your valuable space, but I shall be only too glad to answer any questions or give any helpful information.

Believe me, yours faithfully,
Hope Squire-Merrick.

MEETINGS LIST.

(Continued from front page.)

Thursday, Aug. 12th.

Well St. & Morning Lane, 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Morning Lane & Mare St., 9 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Median Rd., 9.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
St. Leonard's St., 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Knapp Rd., 8.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
53 St. Leonard's St., 8 p.m.
175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Miss Manicom
124 Barking Rd., 8 p.m., Mrs. Schlette.

Friday, Aug. 13th.

Charles St. & Exmouth St., Limehouse, 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss Manicom.
Salmon Lane, 9 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss Manicom.
Upper North St. & Grundy St., 9.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss Manicom
Beckton Rd., 8 p.m., Mr. Mackinlay.
Ford Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Feek, Mrs. Drake.
Clock Tower, Burdett Rd., 9 p.m., Miss Feek, Mrs. Drake.
Morpeth St., 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
"Salmon and Ball," 8.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss McLellan.
Custom House, 5 p.m., Miss Lynch.
St. Leonard's St., 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.
Abbott Rd. & Brunswick Rd., 9 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.

Saturday, Aug. 14th.

Lefevre Rd. & Roman Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
St. Stephen's Rd., 8.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Morpeth St., 9 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Gibraltar Walk, 9.30 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Rathbone St., 8 p.m., Mr. Lynch, Miss Manicom.
"Boleyn," 9 p.m., Mr. Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Dock Gates, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Chrisp St. & Grundy St., 8.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Devonshire St. & Cambridge Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Osborn St. & Whitechapel Rd., 4 p.m. Miss Lynch.

WHAT ARE YOU going to do to help the Demonstration on Registration Sunday. Give every hour that you can spare!

The *Daily Chronicle* reports that boys of eleven and twelve were earning about 30s. a week as caddies at the Neasden Golf Club.

Are the girl caddies at Walton Heath, where Mr. Lloyd George plays, equally well paid? That boy caddies should get 30s. whilst girls in munition factories get 6s. and 8s. shows us the value set on the women who volunteer for War Service! It also shows us how much more profitable it is to earn one's living in a luxury trade.

WHAT TO DO—THE TRAINED WOMAN.

By Margaret McMillan.

Training "says a voice in my ear" is not everything! No. Not everything, for the greatest things of all come to us all freely like the morning light and the evening star. Strange peace falls on us at times like dew, a serene joy lifts us above the waves of trouble. People who do not know all this have not gone far in life, or have made their journey too hastily. But I am not going to write about the most precious things of all, I am merely going to set down, if I can, a few facts about our world to-day, and to indicate the way in which some women can shape their lives, in these tremendous times, to fulfil some real and worthy purpose. In short, I am going to write of the source of inspiration and power. But merely of the making of channels and ways for their manifestation.

Dear women of England, what *have* we been doing? Great things in many cases. You have been rearing children for example, and fine ones. Ah well! our work, on the whole, must have been sadly isolated. Hand loom weavers of the home, you did make a few fine (and yet never wholly successful) homes. For the rest, our methods have failed utterly, and are out of touch with the realities and needs of the hour. They are about as effective on the whole, as a child's toy-plough would be in the hands of a Manitoba wheat farmer.

We are slow, of course, to admit all this. We hear with pride that our men are heroes, and face death like heroes. Well, no one ever doubted that there was good material in Britain. "Ye good yeoman, whose limbs were made in England," allow me, sorrowfully to add in this time of grief that our Scottish Highlanders were not behind the best in grit, in courage, and complete surrender. That is why our privilege and responsibility is so great, our impatience with toy instruments as means of salvation so utter and so violent. "There were thousands of industrial school lads, thousands of slum-bred heroes in the living walls of valour that went down *for us*." Is it so? Then let us be done with fads, and play things once and for all. Let us forge and fit weapons that will save *all* our young people from slums. Let us be done with "patience" and insincere folly and amateur philanthropy. Bury them now, while the grass is kindling into emerald fire above the ashes of the brave.

I cannot indicate much in a short article, but I will try to put one or two things before my readers. England has from six to eight millions of children to look after all the time, if we count the adolescents, (and *they* should not be left out). She has ten millions of under age beings, for whom, if she is not blind, and out of date, she ought to do *her best*. As to her material resources, they are, we know, enormous. She can stand a war that costs three million pounds a day, and stand it not for a month or six months, but, if necessary, for years. Of course she would have to put a burden on the next generation in doing this, but truth to tell, she might strengthen that generation so that it could carry a burden six times as great as she could even in these war-loan times pile on it.

Proofs! Why the proofs are so easy, so conclusive, that it is hardly worth while arguing about them. The natural wealth has trebled intensely in the last forty or fifty years. The population has not trebled itself. We have hardly a baby that keeps well for six months, and hardly a fourteen year old child (among the workers at least) who can go on growing as nature meant him to. Things were worse 40 or 50 years ago. Still our maimed populations, allowed to breathe a little, treble our wealth and turn into fine soldiers in a twelve-month.

Now what we want is simply an organized and perfected method of dealing with all our children and minors. Nurture and education, seriously undertaken and carried out by trained and efficient workers. "Well, why should it not be done?" you say, "there are plenty of such workers." No, dear friend, the harvest is great, but the labourers are nowhere to be seen. You can hardly find a well-trained "nurture" sister if you look for a month of summer's days. Women have never been trained for this work, any more than society women (who in many cases cannot do their own hair) have been trained to nurse surgical cases at the front. The amount of miserable inefficiency, of sheer folly, and murderous courage that this war has disclosed is awful to contemplate.

Do you know that in the past 15 years, new and radical reforms in education have been checked again and again, *because there were no women trained to carry them out*. They had worked in their homes. Yes, with the tools and methods, not of the Middle Ages, but of the Stone Age.

Not that I want everyone, at this point, to rush away and open a School for Mothers! For even Baby-Clinics and Schools for Mothers are not going to do much, unless they *are* integral and adapted parts of a much bigger thing. What is the use of saving your baby at five months, if he is to be left to get maimed in a new way at five years old; and why do a great deal before a child is 14, if he is going to be abandoned in the midst of the rapids at 14 and a month. Well may the Germans smile at such "methods," though they have little cause to smile after all if the whole truth were known. They differ from us in this—that they profess to train men successfully as fragments, while we do not profess anything at all, but try to do good promiscuously, and taking hold anywhere. They have an aim and a clear vision. We have no definite aim in our schemes, and our vision is not a vision. That is why it does not become a reality. We cannot resolve to train men as mere puppets and food for powder. But we have not dared to train them for full manhood and conscious power.

O England, and its compromises! England shrinking from the cruel and wicked use of its children, but afraid, all the same, of the results of their real enfranchisement. War finds you brave. May you dare ever more and more, till every form of fear is left behind! But Germany's own lesson must be learned somehow. You have to go in for efficiency now. There is no course open to you. Amateur nursing and teaching have been tried now, and we have had enough of them. We want 10,000 trained child-nurses to start with, and I think they ought to serve in baby camps and get in love with the open.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

Elderly woman; good needlewoman; can make shirts, blouses, and children's clothing, etc., desires work.

Good needlewoman, widow, with two children dependent on her, wants work.

Delicate girl, recently out of hospital, wants sewing or other light work.

Two girls want agricultural work; would like to be together.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

General Fund.—Mrs. Despard 1.0.0, Profit on Canning Town teas 2.3, Mrs. Thompson 2.0, Poplar collection 1.4, Barking Road 0.8.

For Milk and General Distress.—F. F. Blackman, Esq. 10.0.0, Miss J. Hinton 3.0.0, Mr. & Mrs. Sadd Brown 3.0.0, Mrs. Rowe 2.0.0, Miss Nita Felton per Mrs. Robertson 1.15.0, Miss P. Dickenson per Mrs. Burke 1.10.0, Mrs. Singer 1.5.0, Mrs. Hartley Withers 1.1.0, Mrs. E. Zangwill 1.0.0, Girls in Invercargill, N.Z. 1.0.0, C. Polhill, Esq. 1.0.0, Mrs. Drake (collected) 12.7, Lizzie Bertram (collected) 10.11½, Miss Buchan 10.0, Mrs. Carlton Smith 10.0, Girls in Hobart, Tasmania 10.0, Miss L. T. Clark 10.0, Miss Norbury 10.0, Mrs. Bird (collected outside Green's) 8.6½, Mrs. Garner 7.6, Miss H. Smith 5.0, per Miss N. Picton 5.0, Nurse Conolly (collected) 3.10, Mrs. Mears (collected) 3.7, Miss Crabb 3.6, Mrs. Neuss (collected in restaurant) 3.2½, Mrs. Foeckert (collected) 2.11½, Mrs. Payton (collected) 2.10½, Miss Una Pitman 2.9½, Mrs. Russell 2.6, Mrs. Sheppard per Mrs. Drake 2.6, Mrs. Sylvia Saxby 2.0, Mrs. Foster 2.0, Miss I. Jones (weekly) 2.0, Mrs. Singer (collected) 1.6.

Clothing, Etc.—Mrs. Brooke, Miss Fox, Mrs. N. H. Alcock, Anon, Mrs. E. Hecht, Anon, Mrs. E. Graves (baby food), Anon, Miss Batson (groceries), Mrs. Burke, Mrs. Lehmann, Miss Rintoul, Miss Hopcroft, Miss A. Udnay, Miss M. Newman, Mrs. Boase.

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